

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CARL J.
LEININGER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding American, an outstanding soldier, and an outstanding officer who has contributed immeasurably to the good relations between the Army and the House of Representatives. On December 31, 1999, Colonel Carl J. Leininger retires after over 28 years of dedicated service to America and our great Army. Throughout his career, Carl Leininger has provided forward-looking leadership characterized by a unique intellect and strategic vision. He has served with distinction in positions of increasing responsibility from platoon to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, always demonstrating the highest degree of leadership and professionalism, while making lasting contributions to Army readiness and mission accomplishment.

As we honor his retirement, we note that Colonel Leininger's distinguished career has stretched nearly three decades, culminating in his service as Chief of the Army's Congressional Activities Division. In this position, Colonel Leininger has served as principal advisor to the Army's senior leaders for their personal meetings with Members of Congress, and for their testimony before committees of this House. He has ensured that the Army's senior leaders provide a coherent, cohesive and meaningful message to the Congress. Colonel Leininger has also contributed to the increasingly effective relations between the Army and the House with his active sponsorship of an annual Congressional Briefing Conference for the Army's Congressional Actions Contact Officers, allowing Members to connect with those managing the planning and programming of Army resources.

Colonel Carl Leininger was born in Pennsylvania, but grew up Indiana. Carl and I graduated together from Andrean High School in 1967. There our paths diverged, I staying home to attend Indiana University, and Carl heading to the banks of the Hudson to attend the United States Military Academy. While there, he played basketball for someone who has since become an Indiana institution, Coach Bob Knight. Graduating from West Point in 1971, Carl was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry. After receiving his Airborne wings and Ranger tab, Carl's first assignment was as an infantry platoon leader in the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Colonel Leininger then transferred to Military Intelligence, serving in intelligence assignments at battalion, division, the Army's Intelligence Threat and Analysis Center, and Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe. Carl also received a masters in political science from Yale, taught social science at West Point, and served as an Army congressional fellow to another Indiana legend, Representative Lee Hamilton.

For the last decade, Carl Leininger has served at the highest levels of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Army, and the De-

fense Department. He served as a speech writer to the SACEUR, the Army Chief of Staff, and the Secretary of Defense. He also served as Chief of the Army's Congressional Activities Division. In these positions, Carl has exhibited that rare combination of Midwestern-bred common sense, Ivy League-honed scholarship, and West Point-forged sense of Duty, Honor and Country in making extremely complicated issues readily understandable for senior Defense and Army officials, Members of Congress, and the public at large.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Colonel Leininger on a productive and happy retirement. I offer my personal thanks to my longtime friend, a soldier whose selfless service has truly made a difference, Colonel Carl Leininger.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DORIS
RENICK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians lost a very dear friend, spiritual symbol and elder—Doris Renick.

Doris was an active and visionary leader and the Tribe's many successes can be attributed to her tenure as tribal administrator and chairperson.

In fact, while serving as chairperson and with the help of other family members, Doris was instrumental in getting the land base in Redwood Valley redesignated from a rancheria to what is now known as the Coyote Valley Reservation. This accomplishment opened the door for obtaining housing for tribal members and to have a recreation building constructed on the reservation.

But key to the community's future was finding new economic opportunities. As such, many say that Doris' most important accomplishment was the opening in 1993 of the Shodakai Coyote Valley Casino, which now provides more than 200 jobs for tribal members and neighbors.

As a State senator, I had a number of occasions to work with Doris and I can attest to her enthusiasm and caring attitude. In fact, her active involvement in a number of local, State, and national organizations attests to her interest in serving all citizens and her ability in bringing people together. Doris, for example served on the Mendocino County Economic Development Commission and helped promote county-wide projects that benefited all residents, not just her Tribe.

Doris also chaired the California Council of Tribal Governments, the California Elders Program, the Consolidated Indian Health Consortium, and the California Indian Health and Disability Board. And she took particular interest in Indian education and bilingual/bicultural programs. Interestingly, her advocacy for improving the delivery of health care came not only from her training and work as a registered nurse, but also her longtime bout with severe rheumatoid arthritis. To be sure, the disability never slowed her down.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians and residents of Mendocino County celebrate the life of Doris Renick. She will be sorely missed, though all around us there are continual reminders of her loving and caring nature.

I join the community and family and friends in mourning Doris' passing and celebrating her life and I extend my heartfelt condolences to all whose lives were touched by her.

HONORING OF JEAN AND FRANK
PERRUCCI, RECIPIENTS OF THE
"LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT COUPLE"
AWARD FROM THE BAYONNE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
INC.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jean and Frank Perrucci for receiving the "Lifetime Achievement Couple" award from the Bayonne Historical Society, Inc., and for their extraordinary accomplishments in community service.

The Perrucci's, who have dedicated their time and service to the City of Bayonne for more than fifty years, are the first couple to be jointly recognized by the organization. From veterans organizations, to school charities and church functions, the Perrucci's willingness to get involved and work toward the improvement of the City of Bayonne has been exceptional.

A World War II veteran of the United States Army and the Maritime Service, Mr. Perrucci has continued to play an integral role in a variety of veterans groups. Of the many organizations he is involved with, Mr. Perrucci serves as chairman of the World War II Welfare Fund and as commander of the Hudson County Catholic War Veterans. In addition, he is president of Bayonne for the Battleship of New Jersey, Inc.

Mr. Perrucci's efforts on behalf of war veterans have not gone unnoticed. He has been recognized by the Catholic War Veterans, receiving the Hudson County Home Award and Hudson County Commanders Award, and was honored again by the National Catholic War Veterans, receiving the National Award and the Lifetime Member Award.

Jean Perrucci, a life-long resident of Bayonne, has been a community activist for more than three decades. Never turning away from a challenge or the chance to help someone in need, Mrs. Perrucci is a wonderful role model for civic and community involvement.

Mrs. Perrucci has been instrumental to so many organizations, offering her knowledge, guidance, and experience. From serving as Chair of the "I Love Bayonne" project, to collecting food for the Make A Difference Day program, to raising funds for the Bayonne Vietnam Memorial monument, Mrs. Perrucci's work has greatly impacted the lives of the residents of Bayonne.

Mr. and Mrs. Perrucci, the parents of four children and seven grandchildren, spearheaded and founded a grassroots organization called the Concerned Citizens of Bayonne

twenty-nine years ago and instituted the Frank P. Perrucci Scholarship Award for students.

For more than fifty years of extraordinary service to the City of Bayonne, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this remarkable couple on receiving the Bayonne Historical Society, Inc.'s "Lifetime Achievement Couple" award. Their contributions to the City and to the 13th Congressional District remain unmatched and I wish them luck in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE PERRY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this brief moment to congratulate and thank Mike Perry for his service and leadership on behalf of the Grand Valley over the last 15 years. In that time, Mike has overseen the opening of the now widely renowned Dinosaur Valley, served as the Director of the Museum of Western Colorado, and, for the last nine years, worked as the Executive Director of the Dinamation International Society. In that time, Mike has distinguished himself greatly. What's more, he has made our community a better place in which to live.

Unfortunately for western Colorado, Mike will be leaving the Grand Valley next month to pursue an outstanding professional opportunity in The Dalles, Oregon. Mike has taken the job of Director at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Wasco County Historical Museum in The Dalles area.

While saddened that Mike will no longer be a part of our community, I know that western Colorado is a better, more culturally vibrant place because of his service. Our loss, is clearly The Dalles' gain.

As Mike moves on to this new challenge, Mr. Speaker, I wish him only the best of luck in all of his personal and professional endeavors. We are thankful for his service over the past 15 years and wish him all the best in the future.

HONORING SYLVIA STAHL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Sylvia "Sally" Stahl, a dedicated wife, mother, and grandmother is celebrating her 80th birthday and I want to take this occasion to join her family and her many friends in wishing her a happy birthday.

She has lived all of her 80 years in the Bronx where her parents instilled in her the virtues and ethics she has lived by and which she passed on to her children and grandchildren. Her parents, Max and Sarah, came to America from Eastern Europe so they and their children could enjoy the America's freedom.

She and her twin sister, Miriam, and her brother, Sydney, were raised in the Bronx.

She and her husband, Harry, purchased their home in the Allerton section of the borough, and she lives in that house still. She and Harry were both active in the community and Sally is still an active member of Hadassah. During World War II, when Harry served with the SeaBees, she worked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

She also did volunteer work at Bronx Lebonon Hospital for more than 20 years. Sally has recovered from three bouts with cancer, but not even that could slow this remarkable lady down. She is still active and drives throughout the Bronx and Westchester County.

She is the mother of Robert and Paul, mother-in-law of Josephine and Helene, grandmother to Jarret, Lindsay, Dana and Eric. I am proud and honored to join Sally, her family and her friends on this wondrous occasion.

EARTH DAY INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce a resolution recognizing the growing observance of Earth Day. On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans celebrated the first Earth Day. Since Earth Day's first observance, the number of Americans celebrating Earth Day and the number of countries observing Earth Day has steadily risen. In fact, Earth Day is now observed in more than 140 countries.

Every year on April 22, millions of Americans and millions of people throughout the world participate in activities that call attention to harmful human activities that impact our natural environment. These calls have not gone unanswered. Since the first observance of Earth Day, Congress has passed the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act in an effort to halt and roll back the harmful impacts of human activity. In addition, we have seen the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and just recently, in the House Committee on Resources, we witnessed a successful bipartisan effort to provide funding for an array of conservation and wildlife programs.

Earth Day provides an opportunity to learn about the positive actions we can take to improve energy efficiency; to develop safe, renewable energy sources; to design goods that are durable, reusable, and recyclable; and to eliminate the production of harmful wastes while protecting our environment and encouraging sustainable development throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution recognizes the importance of Earth Day and calls on the House of Representatives to recognize that Earth Day should be established to draw attention to the impact of human activity on the natural environment, to alert the world to environmental threats to human health and well-being, and advocate personal actions and public policies to promote and preserve a healthy, diverse, resilient, and productive

world for our children and our children's children.

This is a companion measure to one already introduced in the other chamber by Senator JEFF BINGAMAN of New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to support this worthy resolution.

HONORING JOHN OLSEN AS HE RECEIVES THE STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS LABOR MEDAL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend John W. Olsen as he receives the State of Israel Bonds Labor Medal for his lifelong contributions to the labor movement in the State of Connecticut.

Created in 1951, State of Israel Bonds serves as the cornerstone of Israel's economy. Committed to improving Israel's infrastructure as a whole, Israel Bonds provides financial support for the construction of research facilities, transportation networks, communications links, and the expansion of port and airport facilities. Its commitment to the betterment of Israel's people and its economy is unparalleled—helping transform the state of Israel into one of the world's leading industrial nations.

In many ways, John's commitment to the labor movement is reflective on Israel Bonds' commitment to the state of Israel. Since he began his career as a member of the UA Local 133, Plumbers and Pipefitters, John has dedicated his life to working families. He has fought for better wages, more comprehensive health benefits for workers and their families, and safer work environment. As President of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, John has forced the largest corporations in Connecticut to listen to their employees' and afford them these basic rights. He has been a true leader for our working families, giving them a voice during the hardest of economic times.

John has also worked hard to make Connecticut a better place to live and grow. He has been active in state and national politics, serving on the Democratic State Central Committee and the Democratic National Committee. He also serves on a number of boards and commissions with the purpose of making Connecticut's workers the most productive in the nation. Over the years, John has become an ambassador for the labor movement, spreading its message of helping and protecting working families through lectures, newspaper columns, and on the radio. We in Connecticut have much to thank John for—his contributions have been truly invaluable.

It is with great pride that I rise to join friends and family in saluting my dear friend, John, as he receives the State of Israel Bonds Labor Medal. Congratulations.